

Collective Insecurity

of the Japanese Government, from proceeding by the Trans-Siberian, the nearest route, and therefore obliged to go via the United States, arriving in Tokyo on March 1, 1932.

The Commission remained for some time in Japan, in Osaka 'meeting leading industrialists', and then went to Shanghai. By the first week in April it had reached Peking, there receiving from the Japanese Government a welcome assurance that its safety would be provided for when it passed into Mr. Pu-yi's domains, and from *The Times* a welcome assurance that it was 'pursuing its labours courageously and perseveringly'. Its Report comprising 400 pages and 100,000 words, was published on October 1, the finishing touches being added by Lord Lytton in the German Hospital in Shanghai, where he was recovering from an illness. At Geneva, consideration of the Report was delayed for six weeks, since the Japanese Government had expressed the wish to send a special delegate for the occasion. When it was considered, its main recommendations—that all armed forces should be withdrawn from Manchuria, and international co-operation be invited for reconstruction purposes—were approved, though a specific condemnation of either party to the dispute was avoided, thereby ensuring that there should be no question of instituting sanctions as provided for in Article 16 of the Covenant. *I am very happy to think,' Sir John Simon said in the House of Commons, 'that British policy to-day, whatever may be its shortcomings and imperfections, at any rate is a policy which has kept us on terms of perfectly friendly

relations both with China and Japan'—like an
eminent counsel
lunching after a case with his learned friend who
had appeared
for the other side, recalling points they had scored
against one
another, enjoying a discreet joke at the Judge's
expense, perhaps
even comparing fees and refreshers received,
having an amiable
dispute about who should pay for the lunch, each
insisting; but
perfectly friendly.

Having been written, published and approved,
little more
was heard of the Lytton Report. It had served its
purpose, and
might now conveniently be forgotten. The
League also had